

Application No. 10/755,243

REMARKS

In the office action of June 29, 2004, claims 1-12 and 21-36 were rejected under 35 USC 102(b) as anticipated by Moore et al. (US 5,610,645). Claims 13-20 were rejected under 35 USC 102(b) as anticipated by Nakamura et al. (US 6,488,355).

Claims 13-20 have been cancelled.

Claims 1, 5, 21, 24, 27, 35, and 36 have been amended.

The rejection of claims 1-12 is respectfully traversed since Moore et al. does not disclose each and every limitation of these claims.

For example, Moore et al. does not show:

the first linear array of first finger manifolds and the second linear array of second finger manifolds being interleaved so as to be alternating along an X-axis and forming a composite linear array of finger manifolds that extends along the X-axis, and wherein the first finger manifolds and the second finger manifolds extend obliquely to the X-axis; and

respective pluralities of drop generators fluidically coupled to respective first finger manifolds and second finger manifolds, whereby a respective plurality of drop generators is fluidically coupled to each of the first finger manifolds and the second finger manifolds.

As another example, Moore et al. does not disclose the further limitations that the first finger manifolds and the second finger manifolds are substantially mutually parallel, and wherein each respective plurality of drop generators includes a linear array of outlet channels that is substantially parallel to the first finger manifolds and the second finger manifolds.

The rejection of claims 21-36 is respectfully traversed since Moore et al. does not disclose each and every limitation of these claims.

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For example, Moore et al. does not show:

the first composite linear array and the second composite linear array being side by side generally along a second axis that is orthogonal to the first axis and forming a 2-dimensional array of finger manifolds; and

respective pluralities of drop generators fluidically coupled to respective first, second, third and fourth finger manifolds, whereby a respective plurality of drop generators is fluidically connected to each of the first, second, third and fourth finger manifolds.

As another example, Moore et al. does not show the further limitations wherein the first finger manifolds, the second finger manifolds, the third finger manifolds and the fourth finger manifolds are substantially mutually parallel, and wherein some of the first finger manifolds are longitudinally aligned with some of the third finger manifolds, and wherein some of the second manifolds are longitudinally aligned with some of the fourth finger manifolds.

As a further example, Moore et al. does not disclose the additional limitations wherein the first finger manifolds, the second finger manifolds, the third finger manifolds and the fourth finger manifolds are substantially mutually parallel, wherein the respective pluralities of drop generators comprise substantially mutually parallel columnar arrays of drop generators, and wherein the drop generators of a columnar array of drop generators is fluidically coupled the same finger manifold.

Reconsideration is respectfully requested in view of the foregoing.

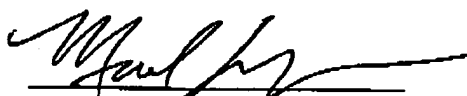
Although no additional fee is believed to be required for this response, the undersigned Xerox Corporation attorney hereby authorizes the

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charging of any necessary fees, other than the Issue Fee, to Xerox Corporation Deposit Account No. 24-0025.

If the Examiner considers personal contact advantageous to the disposition of this case, please call Applicant's attorney, Manuel Quiogue at 503.685.4229 or fax him at 503.685.4223.

Respectfully submitted,



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